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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/420,787	10/19/1999	TED DANIELS	M3850.0029/P	3297

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EXAMINER

CHOW, DOON Y

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2675

DATE MAILED: 11/29/2002

16

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/420,787

Applicant(s)

DANIELS, TED

Examiner

Dennis-Doon Chow

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2675

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 August 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 2-4, 6-16, 18-24, 26-28 and 31-34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 2-4, 6-16, 18-24, 26-28 and 31-34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. Claim 28 recites the limitation "said removable wireless input device". There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 2-4, 6-13, 15-16 and 18-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Honda et al. (5400213) in view of Oka (5049863) and Merkel (5510953).

Honda discloses a portable personal computer, comprising: a base having a controller for controlling operations thereof; a display attached to the base; and a removable keyboard for communicating with the controller in the base through a signal interface when mounted into or removed from the base (see Figs. 1-2).

Honda does not disclose the signal interface being wireless.

Oka, in the same input field, discloses a removable input member for communicating with a base unit through a signal interface which includes a wireless infrared connection or a hardwired connection which includes a first and second connectors (Figs. 7, 9, 10). The removable input member includes a power supply for

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supplying power to the removable input member when the wireless communication is used (see Fig. 7).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to substitute Oka's wireless connection for Honda's hardwired connection because Oka teaches both wireless and hardwired connection can be used.

Honda does not explicitly disclose using the recess for receiving one side surface of the keyboard.

Merkel, in the same input field, discloses a mounting structure for mounting a removable keyboard into a computer base unit. The structure comprises a recess for receiving a side surface of the keyboard.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use the Merkel's concept in Honda's invention because Merkel's mounting structure is very simple and it is ease to make.

Regarding claims 6-8, using a pointing device such a track ball or a touch pad in the keyboard is well known in the art.

Regarding to claims 11 and 15, using a radio frequency connection instead of the infrared connection in the wireless communication is well known in the art.

1. Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Honda et al. in view of Oka and Merkel as applied to claims 2-4, 6-13, 15-16 and 18-21 above, and further in view of Brusky et al. (5903259).

The modified Honda does not disclose using two infrared devices.

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Brusky, in the same input art, discloses using more than one infrared devices for transmitting infrared signals from a remote keyboard to a computer base unit (see Fig. 2), wherein each of the infrared devices is located in each side of the keyboard.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use Brusky's infrared devices in the invention of the modified Honda because more infrared devices provide better transmission.

4. Claims 22-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Honda et al. in view of Oka and Merkel as applied to claims 2-4, 6-13, 15-16 and 18-21 above, and further in view of Klein et al (6205021).

The modified Honda does not disclose the use of a spring ball bearing.

Klein, in the same input art, discloses a mounting structure for mounting an input device into a computer base unit. The mounting structure comprises a spring ball bearing (38 Fig. 5).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use Klein's spring ball bearing in the invention of the modified Honda. By doing so, a good contact can be created between the keyboard and the base.

5. Claims 26, 28, and 30-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Honda et al. (5400213) in view of Oka (5049863).

Honda discloses a portable personal computer, comprising: a base having a controller for controlling operations thereof; a display attached to the base; and a removable keyboard for communicating with the controller in the base through a signal interface when mounted into or removed from the base (see Figs. 1-2).

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Honda does not disclose the signal interface being wireless.

Oka, in the same input field, discloses a removable input member for communicating with base unit through a signal interface which includes a wireless infrared connection or a hardwired connection which includes a first and second connectors (Figs. 7, 9, 10). The removable input member includes a power supply for supplying power to the removable input member when the wireless communication is used (see Fig. 7).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to substitute Oka's wireless connection for Honda's hardwired connection because Oka teaches both wireless and hardwired connection can be used.

6. Claim 27 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Honda et al. in view of Oka as applied to claims 26, 28, and 30-33 above, and further in view of Brusky et al. (5903259).

The modified Honda does not disclose using two infrared devices.

Brusky, in the same input art, discloses using more than one infrared devices for transmitting infrared signals from a remote keyboard to a computer base unit (see Fig. 2), wherein each of the infrared devices is located in each side of the keyboard.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use Brusky's infrared devices in the invention of the modified Honda because more infrared devices provide better transmission.

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7. Claim 34 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Honda et al. in view of Oka as applied to claims 26, 28, and 30-33 above, and further in view of Klein et al (6205021).

The modified Honda does not disclose the use of a spring ball bearing.

Klein, in the same input art, discloses a mounting structure for mounting an input device into a computer base unit. The mounting structure comprises a spring ball bearing (38 Fig. 5).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use Klein's spring ball bearing in the invention of the modified Honda. By doing so, a good contact can be created between the keyboard and the base.

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments with respect to the claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Merkel and Batra et al. teach a removable keyboard.


10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dennis-Doon Chow whose telephone number is 703-305-4398. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-6:00, Alternate Monday off.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Steve Saras can be reached on 703-305-9720. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9314 for regular communications and 703-872-9314 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-306-0377.

D. Chow
November 25, 2002



DENNIS-DOON CHOW
PRIMARY EXAMINER